

## **Kinnikinnick CCSD #131 ARP-ESSER III Funds Plan**

In March 2020, the Kinnikinnick School District identified three priorities in this evolving pandemic: 1) The safety, well-being and care of our families and staff 2) To provide accurate and clear information and 3) To provide connection and engagement in learning.

The priorities included in this document are still the guiding lights by which we are determined to sustain our mission, as well as providing 100% in person education. The three priorities of the District continue to guide our work and this document supports the priority of providing accurate and clear information to our stakeholders and community.

While our District took every measure to mitigate virus transmission outlined in our Fall Opening Plan 8/2021 we did have a significant disadvantage when it came to air quality and adequate filtration, as two out of our four school buildings do not have modern heating and cooling systems. Also, providing higher circulation of fresh air is limited due to cooling only with fans and limited classroom windows. It is clear to our community, school stakeholders and our school board that utilizing funding to upgrade our HVAC systems at our Ledgewood and Stone Creek campuses are crucial to the continued success of maintaining the safety and well-being of our students and staff, as well as continuing to mitigate any possible threat to our learning environment. Reducing as many mitigating circumstances is crucial to in person learning in order to reduce transmission and reduce quarantines of our students and staff. Since most viruses are airborne, it is essential that filtration systems are up to date and can regulate building air quality and filtration with confidence. A significant portion of our ESSER III funds will be allocated toward completing an upgrade to a modern heating and cooling system in both Ledgewood and Stone Creek Schools. Our target date for completion of this project is the Summer of 2024.

Beginning in the Spring of 2022, the process for letting a bid to begin HVAC work at Ledgewood and Stone Creek School has been approved by the Board. The first phase of the project will include designated portions of each school building; this work is to be completed in the Summer of 2023. Next spring, another bid will be let for phase two of this project which will anticipate the completion of the HVAC upgrades to both buildings in the summer of 2024. This project will provide equitable and safe learning environments at all buildings within the District and has a direct and positive impact on all students and staff.

The District has spent a significant amount of time collaborating with stakeholders, assessing our current data for learning loss, planning, and viewing all of the available funds to support the safety, well being and increased academic achievement of its students and staff. By blending and braiding the allocated ESSER I, II & III funds and the Title funds the district receives, we were able to establish a multi year plan for facility improvements to air quality and filtration across the district and to provide ALL students and staff technology hardware needed to embed assessment and benchmarking data, differentiate instruction for our learners, and provide

learning opportunities outside the construct of the school day and calendar through summer learning and enrichment, and learning time in our afterschool programming. Being able to keep learning going since March 17, 2020 has been the hallmark success of our district. Over the past two years, we have honed our instructional technology craft to provide all learners with rich learning opportunities, engaging projects and differentiated instruction meeting each learner where they are at in their learning progress to close gaps in achievement.

The second portion of our ARP-ESSER III monies will be used to provide the technological equipment (hardware) necessary to meet our student achievement goals and close the learning gaps that were created during the pandemic for all student populations including our low income, special education, homeless and EL populations. Providing all students' and teachers' laptops is necessary to implement a consistent learning system (I-Ready) which provides embedded assessment, differentiation and support to meet the individual needs of every student. These monies also keep the district students and staff well prepared for the possibility of remote learning, if that were to become necessary.

The District will continue to systematically implement our I-Ready learning systems to provide the District with weekly status checks of our student learning to assess, address and differentiate for our student learning gaps. Students each have differentiated and customized learning paths monitored by teachers to provide reteaching and practice to address learning gaps and when appropriate challenge students to proceed in their learning. Students that are two grade levels behind in the Spring are recommended for summer learning programs in order to address gaps in ELA and math. The District also provides a summer enrichment at home program to encourage all students to practice skills in all content areas. Students participating in the District's afterschool program engage in "learning time" built into the program that allows for students to engage in practice lessons on I-Ready where incentives have been built in at individual and building levels. All students are provided connectivity, hardware and software beyond the constraints of the school calendar and hours to provide learning at home and throughout the summer.

The ARP ESSER III funds will be used to enhance technology through replacement of student and teacher laptops. While the district has been in person since school year 2020-21, by providing students with technology year round and at home, students are able to access learning as an extension from school 365 days a year and if necessary the tools will be in place if a student, teacher, classroom or district would need to provide remote learning. The monies provided to the District through ARP- ESSER III help support our academic learning in the classroom, through our summer enrichment programming and in our afterschool program by providing students and teachers the technology they need to be successful in engaging in I-Ready.

Stakeholders were included in school building, union and grade level meetings to review data, create goals and make decisions about the greatest needs in the classroom and district. Funds will be allocated for facilities to two buildings and the learning loss funding will be used district wide. The process has included parent and Board participation as the projects have been

discussed at multiple Board meetings and throughout our communication of our School Improvement Plans addressing student learning. Parents have attended numerous Board meetings and provided public comment. This plan will also be included on our school webpage.

ARP- ESSER III Funds totaled \$1,697,897 and will be used for the following:

Ledgewood and Stone Creek HVAC projects	\$1,373,113.00
Technology- Student laptops	\$157,500.00
Technology- Teacher laptops	\$86,734.00
Laptop management and filter software	\$80,550.00
<b>Total for ESSER III Funds</b>	<b>\$1,697,897.00</b>

**Update to ESSER III Use of Remaining Funds (\$11,962) 2024:**

ESSER III goals for funding technology were achieved while some monies remained in the subgroup of learning loss and the unfinished HVAC project which is slated to be completed this summer. In order to maximize the use of the remaining funds, the District has identified necessary supplies to address learning loss in the area of literacy. The District continues to systematically implement our I-Ready learning systems to provide the District with weekly status checks of our student learning to assess, address and differentiate for our student learning gaps. Students each have differentiated and customized learning paths monitored by teachers to provide reteaching and practice to address learning gaps and when appropriate challenge students to proceed in their learning. 2023 IAR learning outcomes for ELA confirm the persistence of disparities among various student groups, specifically low income students within the District. These measures demonstrate the ongoing impact of the pandemic on literacy skills, despite indications of recovery in district and state data. In order to continue to close this achievement gap, the district must implement evidence-based literacy activities and systematic literacy instruction supported by our I-Ready data. In order to provide this type of instruction, the districtwide ELA committee has determined that District resources are lacking in decodable and inclusive read aloud books for the intentional practice of sound-symbol connections and regular exposure to fluent reading models. The remaining ESSER III funds of \$11,962 will be utilized to provide these resources at each of the four school buildings as a continuation of our pursuit to close academic achievement gaps produced by the pandemic.